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# EASTERN

371

1947

PALESTINE

File No. 48

pp. 8944 - 9207

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## References

FO 371 / 64829

**1978**

61829

<p>442 1947</p>	<p>Palestine</p> <p>EASTERN</p>	<p>E 8944 / G</p> <p>27 12 1947</p> <p>2</p>
<p>E 8944 / 48 / 31/6</p> <p>Bucharest</p> <p>1030</p> <p>Dated 26 Sept</p> <p>Received 27 Sept.</p>	<p>Jewish illegal immigration</p>	
<p>Last Paper.</p> <p>8912</p> <p><del>E 8957</del></p>	<p>(Minutes.)</p> <p><i>Je</i> 27/9</p>	
<p>References.</p> <p>E 8954 / 48 / 9</p>		
<p>(Print.)</p>		
<p>(How disposed of.)</p> <p>8) 11P</p> <p>61829</p>		
<p>(Action completed.)</p> <p>28/29/4</p>	<p>(Index.)</p> <p><i>up 4.</i></p>	
<p>Next Paper.</p>		

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DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

27 SEP 1947

3

D. 5.13 p.m. September 26th, 1947.

R. 7.25 p.m. September 26th, 1947.

**SSSSS**

SECRET

Jewish illegal immigration.

2. Same source reports that armed resistance to boarding parties of the Royal Navy is contemplated and that 50 trained group leaders will lead it.

[Repeated to Angora and British Middle East Office  
Cairo and copies sent to Colonial Office Telegraph  
Station and War Registry Admiralty for repetition  
to Jerusalem and Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean]

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## References:

FO 371 64829

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<p>473 1947</p>	<p>Palestine</p> <p>EASTERN</p>	<p>E8984 /G</p> <p>29 SEP 1947</p> <p>4</p>
<p>E 8984 /48/31/6</p> <p>Paris</p> <p>926</p> <p>Dated 27 Sep</p> <p>Received 29 Sep</p>	<p>S.S. Pan York</p> <p>Rpts Paris to 18 to Algiers.</p>	
<p>Last Paper.</p> <p>E8944</p>	<p>(Minutes.)</p> <p>Telegram sent to Tunis and Algiers</p> <p>and another to Sofia and Bucharest</p> <p>on E8639</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i> 29/9</p>	
<p>References.</p>		
<p>(Print.)</p>		
<p>(How disposed of.)</p> <p>2) HP</p> <p>Sept. 29.</p>		
<p>(Action completed.)</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i></p>	<p>(Index.)</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i></p>	
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E  
F8984  
Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

FROM PARIS TO ALGIERS

Mr. Ashley Clarke  
No.18

D. 1.46 p.m. 27th September, 1947

27th September, 1947 R. 6.10 p.m. 27th September, 1947

Repeated to Foreign Office No.926

.....  
IMPORTANT

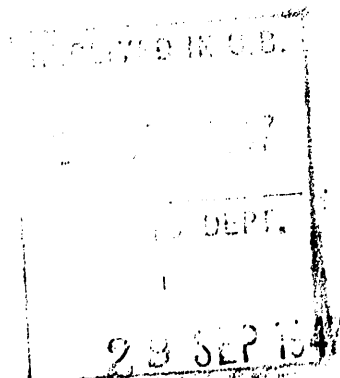
SECRET

Foreign Office please pass to Algiers important  
as my telegram No.18.

The S.S. Pan York, owned by the F. and B.  
Shipping Co., Panama, which we suspect may be used  
for carriage of illegal immigrants to Palestine,  
is now on her way to Philippeville having left  
Bordeaux where she loaded 750 tons of fuel oil  
on the 24th September.

2. We shall be glad of any information  
you can obtain about the intended future movements  
of this ship. You may think it as well to warn  
the local authorities to keep a watch on her.

[Repeated Important to Algiers].



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Class *371* .....

Piece *61829* .....

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*E9016/48/31*

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Reference: <b>FO 371 / 61829</b>					

264

E

E 9052

1947

PALESTINE

OCT 1947

Registry  
Number

E 9052/48/31

FROM

70. Minute

No.

W. Clayton

Dated

23 Sept

Received

in Registry

Oct 1.

Prevention of Illegal Immigration, Future Policy

Discusses problem of whether it is  
 continue to try to stop illegal immigration  
 should decision be made to withdraw  
 from Palestine, during period of announcement  
 and completion of withdrawal.

Last Paper

9016

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Minutes.)

I understand that this question  
 will be referred to the Ministerial  
 Committee on Illegal Immigration

Cable

2/10

to. or. 3

(Action  
completed)

J. L. 2/10

(Index)

29/1/48

Next Paper

9069

38538

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61829



NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Minutes.

E 9052

E. Dept.

OCT 1947

✓ One problem which is agitating the military (and naval) minds at the moment is whether we shall continue to try to stop illegal immigration, if we announce our intention to withdraw from Palestine, during the interim period between the announcement & the completion of withdrawal.

Can you enlighten me at all?

W. H. H. 23/9

The Official Committee of Illegal Immigration into Palestine are working on the assumption that we shall have to continue our measures to control Jewish Illegal Immigration, for a period of some months at least after the announcement of our intention to withdraw from Palestine. It seems likely that the bulk of the illegal immigrants intercepted off the Palestine coast will be taken to Cyprus, where there is still room for 15,000 more of them. We shall not abandon our policy of "refoulement", in spite of the reverse of this policy received at the hands of the French Government; but, we shall not send people back to the country of embarkation unless we have assurances from the

Government/

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Minutes.

Government concerned that we shall be able to disembark the Illegal Immigrants forcibly.

It would seem that, if no agreed solution is found by the Jews and Arabs as a result of our announcement, we shall have to proceed with our withdrawal and that, at a given moment during the operation, we shall cease to have the necessary organisation on the spot to stop Illegal Immigration. Alternatively, if the Jews and Arabs should agree on a solution which permitted further substantial Jewish Immigration, we should be able to increase the Jewish quota during our remaining tenure of authority, thereby reducing illegal immigration.

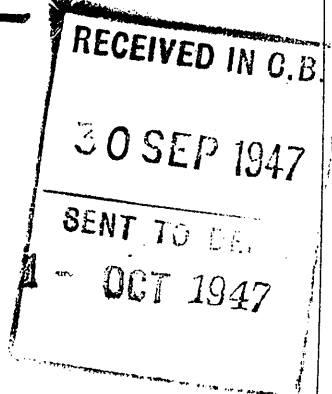
*J.G.S. Beith*  
J.G.S. Beith  
25th September 1947

So long as we remain in authority in Palestine we must presumably take all practicable steps to prevent and discourage illegal immigration. But ~~this is~~ ~~primarily a C.O. question~~ if the military authorities want a definite ruling, I think the question should be referred specifically to the Illegal Immigration C.C.

*Caravan*  
21/9

We have had a preliminary discussion with C.O. I agree with Mr Caravan's minute. So long as we are administering Palestine, illegal immigration adds to  
on

8A  
And we do not  
pin great hopes  
on this policy  
now.



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**Nothing to be Written in this Margin.**

*Minutes.*

our difficulties & dangers, &  
should continue to be stopped.

The COS office should ask the Official Cttee on Illegal Immigration for a definite ruling. In anticipation of such a request CO ~~are already~~ will <sup>begin to</sup> now draft a reply.

Bob Burns

27.9

I have asked Admiralty  
to start the ball rolling

29/5

[illegible]

<p>475 1947</p>	<p>Palestine</p> <p>EASTERN</p>	<p>E9069/G 10</p> <p>SEP 1947</p>
<p>E9069/48/31/6</p> <p>Belgrade</p> <p>1041</p> <p>Dated 27 Sept</p> <p>Received 1 Oct</p>	<p>Pan Crescent</p>	
<p>Last Paper.</p> <p>E9016</p> <p>References.</p> <p>E8639/48/9.</p>	<p>(Minutes.)</p> <p>She is now in Lusitanga. <i>[Signature]</i> 2/10</p>	
<p>(Print.)</p>		
<p>(How disposed of.)</p> <p>8) 11P.</p>		
<p>(Action completed.)</p> <p>2F 7/10</p>	<p>(Index.)</p> <p>424.</p>	
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11

D: 4.6 p.m. 29th Sept., 1947  
R: 7.50 p.m. 29th Sept., 1947

A A A A

Your telegram No.2019.

I raised this question with the Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs. This morning, leaving with him an aide m  moire drawing his attention to personal assurances given me by Marshall Tito last December that Yugoslav Government would not assist illegal transit traffic of Jewish immigrants to Palestine.

2. General Velcbit took note of what I said and replied that Yugoslav Government did not wish to give any facilities for illegal immigrant traffic. On the other hand he would remind me that this traffic was in extremely skilful hands and that visas were almost invariably obtained by illegal immigrants for destinations other than that to which they were going and were nearly always in perfect order.

3. I replied that what mattered on this occasion was to prevent this ship fuelling at Yugoslav port and to keep track of it while it was in Yugoslav waters.

Foreign Office please repeat to Alexandria, Bucharest Milan and Commander in Chief Mediterranean as my telegrams Nos. 1,52, 8 and 1 respectively.

[Repeated to Alexandria, Bucharest, and Milan by Foreign Office. Copies sent to War Registry, Admiralty for repetition to Commander in Chief Mediterranean].

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Class *371* .....

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*E9070/48/31*

~~FO 371~~

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EQ071/48/31

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473 1947	Palestine EASTERN	E9076/G 11 OCT 1947 14
E9076 148/9 <sup>31/6</sup>  Paris 930 Sent 30 Sep Received 1 Oct.	Pan York Rpts Paris to 115 to Marseilles	
Last Paper. E9076	<div style="text-align: center;">(Minutes.)</div> <p>The "Pan York" has now arrived at Marseilles. It does not appear from this telegram that H.M. Embassy fully realize the importance of holding up this ship. I think we should point this out and submit draft telegram accordingly.</p> <div style="text-align: right;"> <i>Jahle</i> (J.E. CABLE) 2/10 </div>	
References.  (Print.)	<div style="text-align: center;">(How disposed of.)</div> <p>Tel. Paris 2nd Oct 2. Rpts Marseilles 146 Angora 839 Bucharest 1028 Sofia 1336 Tunis 54 9/10 Oct. 4th.</p> <p>Paris tel. within is distinctly feeble Western Dept. 10/2.10.</p> <p>H.S. Benis out. 2</p> <p>BAB... 2. X</p> <p>Tel. sent 3/10</p>	
(Action completed.) 2/10	(Index.) 14/11	
Next Paper.		

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Registry  
No. 9076/48/G

Top Secret.  
Secret.  
Confidential.  
Restricted.  
Open.

Draft.

PARIS

Telegram.

No. 2142.

(Date) Oct 2nd

Repeat to:—

Marseille (Immediate)  
No. 146

Angora No. 839

Bucharest No. 1028

Sofia No. 1336

Tunis No. 54

C. inc. Med.

En Clair.

Code.

Cypher.

Distribution:—

Cabinet

Western Dept.

Just

JB. art. 2

Copies to:—

I.I.P. 4/10/47

BARB

F. O.,

3/10 1947.

Despatched 12.20 M.

Immediate

Confidential

Your telegram no. 115 [of 30<sup>th</sup> September:  
Jewish illegal immigrants] I am seriously concerned  
at the possibility that "PAN  
YORK" may reach Palestine  
waters in the near future  
with as many as 8000 Jewish  
illegal immigrants on board.  
Their admission to Cyprus  
would make grave inroads  
in the camp accommodation there.  
"PAN YORK" may even prove  
to be "unboardable" and succeed  
in beaching herself, thus enabling  
many illegal immigrants to  
land in Palestine.

2. Please inform the  
French Govt. that I ~~personally~~  
attach the greatest importance  
to preventing what is likely  
to be an unprecedented  
influx of illegal immigrants / (4000

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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~~Provided for the~~  
objection

**NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.**

2/8

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FO 371 / 64829

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18

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## CABINET DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO PARIS

D. 12.02 a.m. 3rd October, 1947.

Repeated to : Marseilles No. 146 - Immediate  
 Angora No. 839  
 Bucharest No. 1028  
 Sofia No. 1336  
 Tunis No. 54  
 Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean



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Reference:

**FO** 371 / 61829

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I am seriously concerned at the possibility that "Pan York" may reach Palestine waters in the near future with as many as 8,000 Jewish illegal immigrants on board. Their admission to Cyprus would make grave inroads in the camp accommodation there. "Pan York" may even prove to be "unbearable" and succeed in beaching herself, thus enabling many illegal immigrants to land in Palestine.

2. Please inform the French Government that I attach the greatest importance to preventing what is likely to be an unprecedented influx of illegal immigrants (4,000 are already on their way in "Paducah" and "Northlands" and 8,000 are threatened by "Pan Crescent" now at Constanza) at this critical juncture. You should urge the French Government to take immediate and effective precautions to prevent any embarkation on this ship and to deny her fuel and facilities at Marseilles, where she arrived on 2nd October. Provided you see no objection you could add that this gives the French authorities an opportunity to retrieve the most unfortunate effect which their handling of the "President Warfield" had on His Majesty's Government and British public opinion.

<p>1947</p> <p>Hg</p>	<p>Palestine</p> <p>EASTERN</p>	<p>E9103 /G</p> <p>19</p>
<p>E 9103 /48/ 31/6</p> <p>Bucharest</p> <p>1050</p> <p>dated 1 0 C</p> <p>Received 20 C.</p>	<p>Illegal immigration from</p> <p><u>Romania</u></p>	
<p>Last Paper.</p> <p>E 9046</p>	<p>(Minutes.)</p> <p>Now see E 9104</p>	
<p>References.</p> <p>E 8639/48/5</p>	<p>3/10</p>	
<p>(Print.)</p>		
<p>(How disposed of.)</p> <p>8) 11P</p> <p>To Panama 106</p> <p>20 C.</p> <p>Rpts Angola 838</p> <p>Bucharest 1027</p> <p>Paris 2141</p> <p>Sofia 1335</p> <p>W'lon 1612</p> <p>8) 11P</p>		
<p>(Action completed.)</p> <p>3/10</p>	<p>(Index.)</p> <p>WPA.</p>	
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Reference:

FO 371 / 61829

E 9103

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1.FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Holman

No. 1050

1st October, 1947.

D. 12.36 p.m. 1st October, 1947

R. 3.50 p.m. 1st October, 1947

Repeated to Moscow

Sofia

Angora

Cairo

Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean Malta

F F F F

IMMEDIATECONFIDENTIAL

Your telegram No. 1003.

Jewish illegal immigration.

As neither Northlands nor Paducah entered Roumanian waters, there appears to be no grounds on which I can ask the Roumanian Government to take more effective precautions in the future. I am informing Roumanian Government however, of possible arrival in Roumanian waters of S.S. "Pan Crescent" and "Pan York" and asking it to prevent embarkation of Jewish immigrants on them and to refuse bunkers should these vessels call at a Roumanian port for fuel before going from Bulgarian port to pick up immigrants there.

Foreign Office please pass important to Angora Cairo and Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean Malta as my telegrams Nos. 27, 15 and 3 respectively.

[Repeated to Angora and Cairo and copies sent to War Registry Admiralty for repetition to Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean Malta]

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3148 Wt. 26469/137 50m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

Registry

No. ~~8139~~ 9183/48/5

Top Secret.

Secret.

Confidential.

Restricted.

Open.

Draft.

PANAMA

Telegram.

No. 106

(Date) October 2nd.

Repeat to:

Angora No 838

Bucharest No 1027

Paris No 2141

Sofia No 1335

Washington No 10112

NA Sept. 1st

HB Oct. 2

En Clair.

Code.

Cypher.

Distribution:—

Departmental No. 1

Copies to:—

I. I. P.

F. O.,

21

1947.

Despatched

7 5 A M.

Immediate  
Confidential

My telegram no. 98 [of 12<sup>th</sup> September: Jewish illegal immigration] and my note to Dr. Poras of 17<sup>th</sup> September (E8450/84/31). "PAJUCAH" and "NORTHLANDS"

have embarked approximately 4000 Jewish illegal immigrants from Bulgaria and are expected to reach Palestine waters to-day.

Another Panamanian ship <sup>2.</sup>CONSTANZA reached Constantinople on 1st October. She is the "PAN CRESCENT", of 4570 gross registered tons, owned by the F. and B. Company of PANAMA. Her New York Agent, NATHAN (or NATHANIEL) COHEN, is connected with the now defunct WESTON TRADING COMPANY (owners of "TRADE WINDS", "PRESIDENT WARFIELD" and "NORTHLANDS"), her Marseilles agents (GINESTA and Company) have acted for eleven other ships all of which have reached Palestine waters with Jews on board and her Venice agent is a notoriously extreme Zionist called PAUL

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**NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.**

5. Please renew your representations to Panamanian Govt. in strongest terms and request them to cancel registration of PAN CRESCENT and PAN YORK JB Oct. 2

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DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

23

No. 106  
2nd October, 1947. D. 7.5 a.m. 3rd October, 1947.

2nd October, 1917.  
Repeated to,   Angora No. 838  
                  Bucharest No. 1027  
                  Paris       No. 2141  
                  Sofia       No. 1355  
                  Washington No. 10112

CONFIDENTIAL

My telegram No.98 [of 12th September: Jewish illegal immigration and my note to Dr. Perras of 17th September (E 8450/84/31)].

"Paducah" and "Northlands" have embarked approximately 4000 Jewish illegal immigrants from Bulgaria and are expected to reach Palestine waters to-day.

2. Another Panamanian ship reached Constanza on 1st October. She is the "Pan Crescent", of 4570 gross registered tons, owned by the F. and B. Company of Panama. Her New York Agent, Nathan (or Nathaniel) Cohen, is connected with the now defunct Weston Trading Company (owners of "Trade Winds", "President Warfield" and "Northlands"), her Marseilles agents (Ginesta and Company) have acted for eleven ships all of which have reached Palestine waters with Jews on board and her Venice agent is a notoriously extreme Zionist called Paul Schulman. She is not only strongly suspect but also very dangerous, being capable of embarking 8000 Jews and large and fast enough to stand a chance of breaking through naval cordon to beach herself on Palestine shore.

3. Her sister ship, the "Pan York", is at Marseilles and may attempt to embark Jews there. Her ownership, New York and Marseilles agents are identical with these of the "Pan Crescent".

4. Panamanian Consul-General here is being furnished with full particulars and has promised to telegraph his Government recommending withdrawal of registration from both ships. We believe he has already made general representations on the subject to his Government.

5. Please renew your representations to Panamanian Government in strongest terms and request them to cancel registration of "Pan Crescent" and "Pan York".

B B B B

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480. 1947	Palestine EASTERN	E9104 /G 24
E9104/48/31/C  Buchares 1051  dated 100 Received 200.	<u>Pan Crescent.</u>	
Last Paper. E9103	(Minutes.) <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>200</span> <span>3/10</span> </div>	
References. E8039/48/5.		
(Print.)		
(How disposed of.) 8)HP Act 8th		
(Action completed.) 923/10	(Index.) up.	
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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

25

FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Holman  
No. 1051

D. 5.50 p.m. 1st October, 1947.

1st October, 1947.

R. 10.10 p.m. 1st October, 1947.

Repeated to : Angora  
Commander-in-Chief,  
Mediterranean  
Jerusalem  
Sofia  
Moscow  
British Middle East Office,  
Cairo

IMMEDIATE

MM

CONFIDENTIAL

Your telegram No. 1003.

Illegal Jewish immigration.

S.S. "Pan Crescent" arrived Constantza today.

Foreign Office please pass immediately Angora,  
Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean, Jerusalem and  
Important to British Middle East Office, Cairo,  
as my telegrams Nos. 28, Unnumbered, 48 and 16  
respectively.

[Repeated Angora and British Middle East Office,  
Cairo, and copies sent to War Registry, Admiralty,  
and Telegraph Section, Colonial Office, for  
repetition to Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean,  
and Jerusalem.]

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<p>1947</p> <p>481</p>	<p>Palestine</p> <p>EASTERN</p>	<p>E9108 /G</p> <p>12 OCT 1947</p> <p>26</p>
<p>E9108 /48/31/G</p> <p>Vienna</p> <p>922</p> <p>Dated 2 Oct</p> <p>Received 2 Oct.</p>	<p>Submission of Mr. Ruck's interim reports</p>	
<p>Last Paper.</p> <p>E9104</p> <p>References.</p> <p>E8466/48/9</p> <p>EY808/48/31</p>	<p>(Minutes.)</p> <p>Please see E8410 and minutes thereon.</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i> 3/10</p>	
<p>(Print.)</p>		
<p>(How disposed of.)</p> <p>8)11P</p>		
<p>(Action completed.)</p> <p>27/10</p>	<p>(Index.)</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i></p>	
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Cypher/OTP

*E9108 Green 27*  
DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

FROM VIENNA TO FOREIGN OFFICE 1 2 Oct 1947

Sir H. Mack.  
No. 922

D.10.36 a.m. 2nd October, 1947

2nd October, 1947 R.12.15 p.m. 2nd October, 1947  
.....

IMPORTANT

From High Commissioner.

Your telegram No. 1320.

Mr. Ruck's interim reports of August 25th, 1947 and September 8th 1947, and his final report dated September 9th 1947 cover recommendations in Rome telegram No. 88 Saving.

2. These reports were submitted by Mr. Ruck from Vienna after consultation with members of intelligence organisation and political division.

3. Copies of reports have been passed to French and United States elements.

2 Oct 1947

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61829

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39538

1110 3

1110 3

Permanent entry into Palestine unless specifically authorized to do so by the Palestine authorities in each case. It is not much use telling them that the Orders are cancelled if they are not in possession of the texts.

Treaty Dept.

Could you say whether you have ever sent copies of these Orders to visiting officers abroad?

P. L. Rex

14/10/47

We have not distributed them

High  
L.D. FISH  
(14.10.47)

If we are to comply with the request of the Palestine authorities, we should have 110 copies each of the Immigration Ordinance 1941 and of the Orders made under the Ordinance which have now been revoked.

P. L. Rex

15/10/47

P. C. D. 25/10/47  
a/c

21/10

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Reference: FO 371/61829

# SEWING.

9 copies

**From the High Commissioner for Palestine.**

Reference No.  
C.S. 603/10

30

To the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date.....**September, 1947**

No.....**211**.....Saving.

**PRIORITY**

**SECRET**

Repeated Prague No. 547 Secret Saving with  
copy of enclosures.

I enclose a report by the Director of Immigration on the circumstances in which a large number of Jews (probably between 600 and 700) have entered Palestine illegally during the month of June from Czechoslovakia.

I shall be grateful if His Majesty's Ambassador, Prague may be requested through the appropriate channels to furnish any further information regarding this unfortunate affair which may become available on investigation, in order that all possible precautions may be taken against any repetition of the fraud.

2. As regards the question of an equivalent number of certificates from the monthly quotas, please see my telegram addressed to Governor Cyprus No. 187 repeated to you No. 1686 of 6th September.

3. I shall be grateful if all visa-issuing authorities may be notified that the following 4 orders made under para (f) ~~of sub-section (f)~~ of sub-section (1) of section 4 of the Immigration Ordinance 1941 have been revoked: Order No. 44 of 1945, Order No. 51 of 1945, the Immigration (Exemption) Order 1946, Order No. 12 of 1946. Copies of these orders are enclosed for ease of reference.

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Reference: **FO 371** / **64829**



MC/47

## 3/

Jerusalem.

SECRET

19th August, 1947

**Chief Secretary.**

I submit the following report on illegal immigration into Palestine from Czechoslovakia:-

On the 28th, 29th and 30th June, 1947, the S.S. 'Providence'. S.S. 'Andrea' and S.S. 'Alexandria' arrived at Haifa Port from Marseilles carrying passengers for Palestine. Among the passengers were 736 persons who were listed in three collective travel documents. The travel documents were issued by the Ministry of National Defence at Prague, Czechoslovakia, on 5th June, 1947. Each document bore the certificate of the Minister of National Defence to the effect that the persons named therein had originally enlisted in the Czechoslovak or His Britannic Majesty's Armed Forces in Palestine and were therefore entitled to exemption from the Immigration Ordinance under the provisions of Exemption Order No. 12 of 1946 published in Supplement No. 2 of the Palestine Gazette No. 1480, page 427, of the 7th March, 1946.

The collective travel documents were further endorsed by Major P.A. Worrall for Colonel, Military Attaché, British Embassy to Czecho-Slovakia, to the effect that he had been assured by the Czechoslovak Ministry of National Defence that the persons enumerated in the documents were eligible for repatriation to and release in Palestine under the above quoted Exemption Order. The travel documents were visa'd for Palestine by the Visa Section of the British Embassy, Prague, on 17th June, 1947, valid for entry to Palestine before 30th June, 1947. (For information the Exemption Orders relating to persons who originally enlisted in His Majesty's Allies in Palestine or in Mauritius were revoked with effect from 1st July, 1947.).

2. Three days prior to the arrival of the S.S. 'Providence' I had received information from an anonymous source that a transport was on the way from Czechoslovakia carrying ex-Czechoslovak soldiers and their families organised by the Prague Palestine Office, and that few of the persons on board were genuinely entitled to Exemption.

3. On arrival of the ships the collective travel documents were withdrawn and each head of family was issued with a certificate of arrival endorsed for one month's stay in Palestine, and instructed to report to one of the offices of the Department of Migration to apply for registration as an immigrant in terms of the Exemption Order. My officers were warned to closely interrogate each applicant with the

/objec t

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Reference: **FO 371** / **64829**

of ensuring that each applicant proved his identity, his marriage and that the children accompanying him were in fact his children.

As a result of these instructions 42 heads of families with 31 dependents have come forward in the allotted time and have satisfactorily proved their identity and have been registered under the Exemption Order. It is significant that these persons had Czechoslovak passports, evidence of their Czech nationality. The balance of 663 persons have disappeared and are now in Palestine illegally. It is believed that these persons have no passports and are probably not all Czechoslovaks.

4. I have had the names of all heads of families as shown in the collective travel documents checked against the enlistment records kept by the Consul General of Czechoslovakia, Jerusalem, and in every case there is a record of enlistment in Palestine.

It can be presumed that the persons who have not come forward to identify themselves assumed the identity of other persons who actually enlisted in Palestine. It can be presumed also that this gigantic fraud has been cleverly organised. The transport arrangements of 736 persons travelling as a body from Prague to Palestine via Marseilles prove this. To what extent the Czechoslovak authorities in Prague who issued the travel documents, have connived at this fraud it is difficult to say. However, I am of the opinion that the matter should be referred to His Majesty's Ambassador, Prague, for his information and for any observations he may care to make.

5. The Czechoslovak Consul General in Jerusalem has cooperated fully in the matter, and I have had free access to his enlistment records. He has also informed me that one of the bogus persons who arrived in one of these ships applied to him for a passport to return to Czechoslovakia stating that he had assumed the identity of a person who had formerly enlisted in Palestine and who is now in Prague.

6. I recommend that 663 immigration certificates be deducted from the quota for the period 15th September - 14th October, 1947. This deduction should be divided as to 50% allocated to Cyprus, 25% to Passport Control Officer, Beftin, and 25% to the Director of Immigration, i.e.

331 - Cyprus: 166 - D.P. camps, Germany;  
166 - Immigration Dept.

7. I leave for your consideration the advisability of publishing this story in order that the detainees in Cyprus and residents of Palestine who are anxiously awaiting immigration certificates for their parents, may know the reason why deductions are being made from the forthcoming quota.

(sgd)

DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION

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Reference: **FO 371 / 64829**

COPY

IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE, 1941.

ORDER, No. 3 of 1947, by the High Commissioner  
under Section 4(1)(f).

33

No.5 of 1941. IN EXERCISE of the powers vested in him  
by paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of section 4  
of the Immigration Ordinance, 1941, the High  
Commissioner has ordered, and it is hereby  
ordered, that Order No. 12 of 1946, dated the  
6th March, 1946, shall be amended by the revoca-  
tion of the Schedule thereto and the substitution  
of the following Schedule therefor:-

Gaz:  
7.3.46,  
p.427.

" SCHEDULE

CLASS OF PERSONS EXEMPTED.

Members, or discharged members, of any  
Forces of any of His Majesty's Allies, who  
originally enlisted therein in Palestine, and,  
provided that the marriages of the said members  
were contracted before or during the period of  
their service with the said Forces, their wives  
and children under the age of eighteen years".

By His Excellency's Command,

H.L.G. GURNEY

Chief Secretary.

27th January, 1947.  
(1/990/46).

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61829**

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COPY.

IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE, 1941

ORDER BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER UNDER SECTION 4 (1) (f).

No. 5 of 1941.

IN EXERCISE of the powers vested in him by paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of section 4 of the Immigration Ordinance, 1941, the High Commissioner has ordered, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:-

Citation.

1. This Order may be cited as the Immigration (Exemption) (Amendment) Order, 1947, and shall be read and construed as one with the Immigration (Exemption) Order, 1946, hereinafter referred to as "the principal Order".

Gaz: 17.1.46,  
p. 55.

Revocation and replacement of the Schedule to the principal Order.

2. The Schedule to the principal Order shall be revoked and the following Schedule shall be substituted therefor:-

"SCHEDULE

**CLASS OF PERSONS EXEMPTED.**

Jewish members of honourably discharged members of any of the armed Forces of any of His Majesty's Allies, who originally enlisted therein in Mauritius voluntarily, and, provided that the marriages of the said members were contracted before or during the period of their service with the said Forces, their wives and children under the age of eighteen years".

By His Excellency's Command,

H.L.G. GURNEY

CHIEF SECRETARY.

27th January, 1947.  
(I/990/46).

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61829**

COPY.

IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE, 1941.

ORD. No. 4 of 1947, BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER UNDER  
SECTION 4(1)(f).

NO.5 of  
1941.

Gaz:27.9.45  
p.1112.

IN EXERCISE of the powers vested in  
him by paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of  
section 4 of the Immigration Ordinance, 1941,  
the High Commissioner has ordered, and it is  
hereby ordered, that Order No. 44 of 1945  
shall be amended by the revocation of the  
Schedule thereto and the substitution of the  
following Schedule therefor:-

" SCHEDULE

CLASS OF PERSONS EXEMPTED.

Members of discharged members, of  
the Royal Navy or His Majesty's Army or the  
Royal Air Force, who originally enlisted  
therein in Palestine voluntarily, and,  
provided that the marriages of the said  
members were contracted before or during  
the period of their service with the said  
Forces, their wives and children under the  
age of eighteen years".

By His Excellency's Command,

(H.L.G. GURNEY)

CHIEF SECRETARY.

30th January, 1947.  
(I/990/46).

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COPY

IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE, 1941.

36

ORDER, No. 5 of 1947, BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER UNDER  
SECTION 4(1)(f)

No.5 of  
1941.

Gaz:25.10.  
45. p.  
1199.

IN EXERCISE of the powers vested in him by paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of section 4 of the Immigration Ordinance, 1941, the High Commissioner has ordered, and it is hereby ordered, that Order No. 51 of 1945, dated the 18th October, 1945, shall be amended by the revocation of the Schedule thereto and the substitution of the following Schedule therefor:-

"SCHEDULE

CLASS OF PERSONS EXEMPTED.

Jewish members or discharged members of the Royal Navy or His Majesty's Army or the Royal Air Force, who originally enlisted therein in Mauritius voluntarily, and, provided that the marriages of the said members were contracted before or during the period of their service with the said Forces, their wives and children under the age of eighteen years".

By His Excellency's Command,

H.L.G. GURNEY

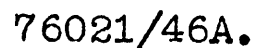
CHIEF SECRETARY.

30th January, 1947.  
(1/990/46).

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**E. 9114**

Colonial Office,  
The Church House,  
Great Smith Street,  
W 1.

3 OCT 1942 W 1.

27 September, 1947.

My dear Cable,

----- I enclose for your information  
--- a copy of a Saving Telegram and its  
enclosures received from the High  
Commissioner concerning the recent  
successful forgery of immigration  
certificates by a large number of  
Jews from Czechoslovakia.

We would be glad to know of any further details about the affair that may come to light in Prague, and would be grateful if you would be good enough to notify the visa issuing authorities of the revocation of certain immigration orders, as stated in paragraph 3 of the Saving Telegram.

Yours Sincerely  
E.N. Fitzgerald  
(E.N. Fitzgerald)

J. CABLE, ESQ.

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**Reference:**

FO 371 61829

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~~Top Secret.~~  
Secret.  
~~Confidential.~~  
Restricted.  
Open.

*Draft.* *we*

To E. H.  
Mr. Fitzgerald  
c-o

from  
Mr. Lable

**NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.**

33654)	Wt.14696/147	75,000	6/47	A.& E.W.Ltd	Gp.685
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CONFIDENTIAL

38

7  
28-2 04

Dear Fitzgerald,

In your letter no. 7602/464  
of the 24<sup>th</sup> September, you asked  
us to notify visa issuing authorities  
of the revocation of certain orders  
concerning immigration into Palestine.

2. As I explained to you on the telephone, Passport Control Officers do not ~~even~~ grant visas for permanent entry into Palestine unless specifically authorized to do so by the Palestine authorities, ~~from~~ to whom each case is referred individually. It ~~seems~~ ~~was~~ is, therefore, hardly necessary that they should receive detailed amendments to Immigration Orders, the more so since copies of these orders and of the Immigration Ordinance 1941 are not held by them.

3. As we agreed on the Telephone

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39

21/10

YOUNG, J. (1964)

(Sgd.) J. E. Cable.

**NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.**

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OUT FILE

40

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

( E 9114/48/31 )

27th October, 1947.

Dear Fitzgerald,

In your letter No. 76021/46A of the 27th September, you asked us to notify visa issuing authorities of the revocation of certain orders concerning immigration into Palestine.

2. As I explained to you on the telephone, Passport Control Officers do not grant visas for permanent entry into Palestine unless specifically authorized to do so by the Palestine authorities, to whom each case is referred individually. It is, therefore, hardly necessary that they should receive detailed amendments to Immigration Orders, the more so since copies of these orders and of the Immigration Ordinance 1941 are not held by them.

3. As we agreed on the telephone, we will take no action on the second paragraph of your letter under reference. The first paragraph has been answered by Prague's note to the Czech authorities, of which a copy was sent to you under our reference E9357/651/31.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) (J.E. Cable)

E.N. Fitzgerald, Esq.,  
Colonial Office.

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1947

E

PALESTINE

4  
E 9117  
3 OCT 1947

Registry  
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received  
in Registry

E 9117/48/31

7.0 Minute

M. Kennie.

1 Oct

3 -

Illegal Jewish Immigration

Article entitled "Who's Hell Love"  
given text of radio Broadcast by  
Jewish Radio re Illegal Jewish Immigration  
to Palestine.

Last Paper

9114

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action  
completed)

9116/10

(Index)

9116/10

Next Paper

9148

(Minutes.)

This is clever and, I imagine,  
effective propaganda.

ca 7/10  
N.A. Dept.

J. E. Cable  
(J.E. CABLE)  
3/10

This was a nationwide  
broadcast on, I believe, the  
third most important network.  
Bout. 4

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~~Eastern Dept~~ <sup>encl</sup> 62  
Mr Beith

We spoke.

to Kennisio  
about

General

Tim L Radio  
Beith

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43  
E 9117  
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"WHO SHALL LIVE"

(Mutual September 16, 1947)

For some the great land of America opens, the storm-tossed find the haven, the land of the free. They find understanding, friendship in the first period of adjustment as new Americans.

But, for most, there remains only the dull edge of hope, the candle that flickers somewhere for them. In a thousand ways they seek the land, the land of Israel, Palestine. That hope they draw breath for in a thousand ways. It begins for some, the great hope, that great journey, with a night ride in the back of a truck.

"No lights, no noise. Not a sound."

The truck streaks through the dark toward a pier. There, at the appointed hour, the exit takes place.

"You'll take your place in the hold."

"Excuse me. Two thousand people in the hold?  
Two thousand!"

"Is there another way?"

"But there are pregnant women and children and..."

"Is there another way?"

In a space for three hundred, two thousand souls! There is enough air for all in the space above, but not enough spaces for all the faces to reach the air.

Then -- motion. The screw of the tired ship is turning.

"We're starting! We're moving!"

"You may be sorry. We may be boarded and turned back."

"I know. I know."

"We may be interned and sent to Cyprus."

"So?"

"So why did we come?"

"Because, my darling, the prison camp at Cyprus is nearer Palestine."

Hope moves them, makes them wait. Hope freezes them, gives them warmth. Hope crowds them into a sweating mass of fear and gives them dignity a little lower than the angels.

And there, too, aboard the ship, amid the oil, the fear, the sweat and hope they also this night say the words:

"Who shall live and who shall die,  
who shall have rest and shall go wandering,  
who shall be tranquil and shall be disturbed?"

It is routine, always routine. The ship is stopped, boarded, turned back. Sent to the island that is nearer Palestine.

There is a pearly island in the Mediterranean, but very much like Dachau, very much like Belsen -- Cyprus.

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"No, no ovens. There is only the sun."

"There is no gas chamber. No flogging."

"No. Only barbed wire. Only officials."

"There are only 17,000 of us. Only a few."

Yes, only a few. And, of these, 750 leave each month for Palestine. Those who arrive tonight, this New Year's eve, have only to wait for two years. Only that. These 17,000 who pace in their cages, waiting, watching the guards, listening to the instructions to the new arrivals:

"Contingent on the right, to the tents! Those on the left, to the huts!"

"Left to the huts, right to the tents! March!"

They nod, having heard them before, as the orders are given.

"No chairs allowed, no tables allowed, no cupboards, no lights. Water is for drinking. The communal wash house is aisle K."

The wire is put back in its place and the sentry paces up and down. And this happens, is happening now, this New Year's eve.

(Sound of hysterical weeping.)

"Chaim, what is it? Stop it! What's the matter with you?  
Chaim, for the love of God, stop!"

"Thank you."

**"What happened?"**

"Now I know it. It's all clear now, a matter of initials, a few simple letters that's all."

"Stop it. Tell me what happened."

"I went to the guard to ask him for some water for washing. 'Impossible,' he said. I said, all right, there's an ocean, a whole sea, the Mediterranean, I said. At least let me go swim there, let me wash myself. Stand by me with a gun, I said. Could I swim to Palestine? Can I escape? That's what I said to him. He said no, it was forbidden. So I said, but they swim. I see them swimming every day, sometimes in the morning, sometimes the afternoon. I see men swimming. Who are they?

\*WOLP\*

"It's only a question of letters, a few letters in the alphabet. We're J.D.'s, they're P.W.'s. We're J.D.'s, Jewish Deportees. We can't go swimming. They can! They're P.W.'s, German prisoners of war. They can! They can! They can."

"Who shall have rest and who shall go wandering,  
Who shall be tranquil and who shall be disturbed,  
Who shall be at ease ...

And once a month, the prayer is answered for 750. For them the bars are lowered, the wire breached and they sail to the land they call the homeland

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But wait! Wait! Listen! The thin girl there, whose father, mother, sister, husband -- all -- were killed, waits behind the wire.

"Seven Hundred fifty."

"You'll not believe what I am about to tell you, but let me tell you anyway. There was a shipment last month. You remember?"

"I remember. Yes, of course. Last month."

"There was a woman aboard. She never heard of you. She was with child. During the voyage she gave birth. A baby girl. During the voyage, before the ship landed. So, instead of 750 last month there was 751."

**RIGHT**

"The authorities took note of the irregularity. They made the proper deduction. This month 749 will be shipped. I had to tell you. Someone had to tell you. I told you you wouldn't believe me but I had to tell you."

On New Year's Day the decree is inscribed:

"Who shall live and who shall die  
Who shall perish by fire and who by water  
Who ..."

Yet the solace of the cage is reserved for the elect, the chosen, the lucky few. For the rest, ~~the~~ the survivors of six million burnings, there are other ends. There is another ending for some.

Incidents: July 11th, from the French port of Sete a one-funneled, three deck craft sets sail. Aboard were 4,500 refugees.

Incident: July 18th. Rammed and captured by naval vessels, the refugees were transferred to three prison ships. Leaflets were placed aboard the ships announcing that the destination of the refugees was Cyprus. It expedited the transference.

Incident: July 30th. The prison ships stopped at Port Du<sup>Bouc</sup> ~~Du~~, France. The refugees were ordered to disembark.

"We wish to go to Palestine. We shall not land in Europe as long as we are alive."

Three weeks past with the ships in port. The refugees lived aboard ship taking exercise on decks compartmented by barbed wire.

"You can't tell anything up here. Up here on the deck there is air. Come down stairs. Downstairs is our Auschwitz! Come downstairs."

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COMMUNICATIONS RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Incident: August 21st.

"Unless the refugees agree to disembark before 18:00 hours of this day the ships will sail for Germany where their passengers will be immediately disembarked."

"We wish to go to Palestine. We shall not land in Europe as long as we are alive."

September 6th. The vessels drew close to Hamburg. All preparations were in readiness for the passengers. Preparations both as to camps and as to landing of the passengers were made.

"Security arrangements have been completed. Soldiers will be sent aboard to herd the Jews on. They will be unarmed. However, rubber truncheons, fire hose and tear gas will be on hand."

September 8th. The passengers disembarked. Force was employed for the recalcitrants. For some of the younger refugees three soldiers were required to effectuate the unloading.

"The newly prepared prison camps are filled. All passengers have made the transfer. The gates are locked. Sentries are at their places. The barbed wire entanglements have been inspected. They are in top order."

On so it is, this evening, this night of the New Year, the time for celebration of the birth of the new world. The travelers' voyage is complete. The cycle is ended. It began here with the knot, the gas chamber, it ends with the barbed wire, the sentries. Their nightmare was no dream. It was reality.

Investigate the problem? It's been done. Draw up recommendations? Completed. Let the united anger and hope of people act? It has begun to do so.

"Recommended by a majority of the United Nations Palestine Committee that permission be granted to allow the entrance of 150,000 Jews into Palestine during the next two years."

A fact yet? No. But it is beyond the stage of hope. It is one step past hope, but not yet reality.

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<p>482</p> <p>1947</p>	<p>Palestine</p> <p>EASTERN</p>	<p>E9148 /G</p> <p>13 OCT 1947</p> <p>47</p>
<p>E9148 /48/31/C</p> <p>Marseille</p> <p>164</p> <p>Saved 200</p> <p>Received 300</p>	<p>Pan YONK</p> <p>Rpts Marseille to 115 to Paris.</p>	
<p>Last Paper.</p> <p>E9108</p>	<p>(Minutes.)</p> <p>She has now left and H.M.S. Chimborazo reports her to be heading S.E. but no further details have yet been received.</p>	
<p>References.</p>	<p>(J.E. CABLE)</p> <p>4/10</p>	
<p>(Print.)</p>	<p>Out. 4</p>	
<p>(How disposed of.)</p> <p>3/11P</p> <p>Oct 8th</p>		
<p>(Action completed.)</p> <p>6/10</p>	<p>(Index.)</p> <p>Wfr.</p>	
<p>Next Paper.</p>		

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79143

18 OCT 1947

48

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

FROM MARSEILLES TO PARIS

Mr. Kay D. 5.55 p.m. 2nd October, 1947  
No. 115 R. 7.30 p.m. 2nd October, 1947  
2nd October, 1947.

Repeated to Foreign Office No. 164

0 0 0 0

IMMEDIATE  
SECRET

Illegal Jewish immigration.

Pan York arrived at Marseilles this morning. Is loading cargo and is expected to sail tonight. Local authorities warned.

1 2 OCT 1947

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<p>483 1947</p>	<p>Palestine EASTERN</p>	<p>EQ149 /G 13 OCT 1947 49</p>
<p>EQ149 148/431/G  Bucharest 1055  Dated 2 OCT Received 3 OCT.</p>	<p>Illegal immigration from <u>Romania</u></p>	
<p>Last Paper. EQ148</p>	<p>(Minutes.) Now please see E 9246</p>	
<p>References. E8629/48/5</p>	<p><i>See 6/10</i></p>	
<p>(Print.)</p>		
<p>(How disposed of.)  8/1.1.P. OCT 8 12</p>		
<p>(Action completed.) 9/10</p>	<p>(Index.) 10/10</p>	
<p>Next Paper.</p>		

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PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

51

Group FO .....

Class 371 .....

Piece 61829 .....

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of the Public Records Act, 1958

E9150/48/31

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Reference:

**FO 371 / 61829**

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<p>484 1947</p>	<p>Palestine EASTERN</p>	<p>EQ197 /G 52 14 OCT 1947</p>
<p>EQ197 /48/31/C  Bunches 1067  Dated 3 Oct Received 4 Oct.</p>	<p>Pan Crescent.</p>	
<p>Last Paper. EQ149</p>	<p>(Minutes.) This news could hardly be less encouraging.</p>	
<p>References. EQ104 /48/9</p>	<p>RPT Southern Dept. 11/10</p>	
<p>(Print.)</p>	<p>The Turks are our last hope now!</p>	
<p>(How disposed of.)</p>	<p>Re. Denis Oct. 4</p>	
<p>8) I.I.P. Oct. 8th</p>	<p>RP Vix</p>	
<p>(Action completed.) 27/10</p>	<p>(Index.) WPH</p>	
<p>Next Paper.</p>		

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Reference:  
**FO 371**  
61829

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E  
Cypher/OTP.

*green*  
DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

*E9197*  
FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

4 OCT 1947

53

Mr. Holman.  
No. 1067.

D. 1.58 p.m. 3rd October 1947.

3rd October 1947.

R. 4.10 p.m. 3rd October 1947.

Repeated to: Angora,  
Malta,  
Sofia,  
Moscow,  
Jerusalem.

IMMEDIATE.

CONFIDENTIAL.

My telegram No.1051.

S.S. Pan Crescent.

Extensive carpentering work is being done in this vessel but I have no information as to its nature.

2. A large number of wooden crates have been loaded on board. Roumanian Port authorities are according all facilities to the vessel and organisers.

3. It is reliably reported that some 6,000 Jews will be embarked on this vessel. Some are already waiting at Constantza but it is not known whether the vessel will call at a Bulgarian port for more passengers.

4. It is reported that the vessel will be ready to sail October 5th and passengers awaiting at Constantza expect to leave on that day.

Foreign Office please repeat to Angora, Malta, Jerusalem as my telegrams Nos.31, 6, and 51 respectively.

[Repeated to Angora.

Copies sent to the Admiralty for repetition to Malta.

Copies sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office, for repetition to Jerusalem.]

W:W:W:W:W

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Reference: **FO 371** / 61829

<p>1947 #85</p>	<p>Palestine EASTERN</p>	<p>E9199 /G 4 OCT 1947 54</p>
<p>E9199 148/2 31/G  Marseilles 165  dated 30 Oct Received 4 Oct.</p>	<p>Pan York.</p>	
<p>Last Paper. E9197</p>	<p>(Minutes.)</p>	
<p>References. E9046 148/G</p>	<p>Pan York has now passed through Straits of Messina, presumably en route for Black Sea.  6/10</p>	
<p>(Print.)</p>		
<p>(How disposed of.) 8)HP Oct 8/12</p>		
<p>(Action completed.) 25/10</p>	<p>(Index.) 14/10</p>	
<p>Next Paper.</p>		

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Reference: FO 371 / 61829



Green 55'

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E9.99

4 OCT 1947

D. 6.44 p.m. 3rd October 1947.

3rd October 1947.

R. 8.25 p.m. 3rd October 1947.

Repeated to Paris.

**IMMEDIATE.**

**SECRET.**

Your telegram No. 2142 to Paris.

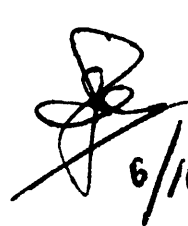


Pan York arrived Marseilles in ballast. Is loading a considerable quantity of feed in cartons. These appear to be of American origin and in spite of local authorities' assurance to the contrary in excess of crew requirements. Local authorities, also state that ship has refuelled here but I cannot confirm this at present. I have made further representations locally today.

0:0:0

4 OCT 1962

6. *Chlorophyll a* and *Chlorophyll b* contents were determined by spectrophotometry using the method of Lichtenthaler and Whistler (1987).

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<p>486 1947</p>	<p>Palestine EASTERN</p>	<p>E9200 /G 56</p>
<p>E 9200 /48/31/G  Sofia 1247  dated 3 Oct Received 4 Oct.</p>	<p>Jewish <u>illegal</u> immigration</p>	
<p>Last Paper. E9199.  References. E8912/48/9</p>	<p>(Minutes.)  Now please see E 9246  6/10</p>	
<p>(Print.)</p>		
<p>(How disposed of.)  8) 11P Oct. 8th</p>		
<p>(Action completed.) SF 9/10</p>	<p>(Index.) </p>	
<p>Next Paper.</p>		

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61829**

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

FROM SOFIA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Sterndale Bennett  
No. 1247

D. 5.55 p.m. 3rd October, 1947.

3rd October, 1947.

R. 8.35 p.m. 3rd October, 1947.

Repeated to : Bucharest  
Moscow  
Angora  
Jerusalem

Commander-in-Chief,  
Mediterranean  
Commander-in-Chief, Middle East  
Land Forces

**IMMEDIATE**

CONFIDENTIAL

Your telegram to Bucharest No. 1019.

Jewish illegal immigration.

I consider that there is no chance whatever of Bulgarian Government agreeing to receive back illegal immigrants or acquiescing in any "refoulement" by force.

2. As regards Red Ensign vessel in Black Sea it would of course be illogical for Bulgarian Government to refuse facilities which they profess to be unable to refuse to suspect ships themselves. But I am sure that they would in practice raise all sorts of difficulties and would be encouraged to do so by Russians who would presumably not like the idea of a "snooping" vessel in the Black Sea.

3. If the idea is pursued I assume that Red Ensign vessel would be based on Istanbul (Constantinople) and would come to Bulgarian ports as required more or less simultaneously with any suspect vessel. Red Ensign vessel might on some trips to Bourgas or Varna have legitimate pretext of discharging stores (and even diplomatic bags in certain circumstances) for this Legation but this pretext would not justify indefinite stay at either port or a visit to the smaller port of Balçik. Harbour dues may also be a considerable item.

4. Although for the above reasons scheme does not seem very feasible, suggestion that we were contemplating it might be added spear to Bulgarian Government to stop traffic from Bulgarian ports. Have I your permission to exploit it with them as a possibility ?

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem, Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean, Commander-in-Chief M.E.L.F., as my telegrams Nos. 31, 4 and 1 respectively.

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office, War Registry, Admiralty, and Duty Signal Officer, War Office, for repetition to Jerusalem, Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean and Commander-in-Chief, M.E.L.F., respectively.]

[illegible]

280

E

58

1947

PALESTINE

E 9207

OCT 1947

Registry  
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received  
in Registry

E 9207/48/31

K. Kelemen

World Literary  
Service

Oct 2

- 6

Exodus Affair, New York Hungarian Press.  
Contains English translation of article  
published in New York Hungarian paper  
AZ ENGER on 13 Sept giving too much  
abrogation on the Exodus affair. Asks  
F.O. to supply statement to give a lie  
to these accusations, which he will translate  
and send to New York.

Last Paper

9200

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

Sgt. Kelemen  
World Literary  
Service  
Oct. 14

Comp. Shavany  
W. Fox  
with ref  
Oct 15

(Action  
completed)

(Index)

J. P. 10/11

J. P. 10/11

Next Paper

E 9233

(Minutes.)

I submit draft reply.

*Julius*  
(W. E. CABLE)  
7/10

Bart. 7

N.A. Dept. 10/10  
Southern Dept. 22/10  
Inf. Policy Dept. 22/10  
News Dept. 22/10  
a/a

in P.P. K. Kelemen 3/10

*J. P.*  
11/11

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61829

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59

Telephone: CUN 1764  
Establ. 1937.

E 9207  
London, 194

October 2nd 1947

October 2nd 1947  
E. G. M. 1947

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**Reference:**

FO

371

61829

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371

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FO

371

The whole civilised world heard with deep consternation and bleeding heart of the disgraceful atrocities, surpassing in cruelty all human imagination, that have been committed against those unhappy Jews who had survived the horrors of the gas chambers. It was not enough, so it would seem, to have slaughtered with beastly brutality six million men, women and children. It was not enough, that they were driven out or dragged away from their homes robbed of all their possessions, that having suffered the tortures of hell, their tears - shed for the loss of parents, children and relatives - not dried yet, broken in body and spirit they must now look for new haven. All this seems to be not enough yet. Most of the homeless Jews look upon Palestine as their future home and their dreams frustrated by the ruthless attitude of the British Government who are barring their only way of escape to them. They are being shipped from one port to the other, they are removed from Palestine by armed forces and in Cyprus concentration camps, set up to the pattern of the German horror camps, Jewish blood and tears are shed again in a never ending flow.

Lately these unhappy Jewish men, women and children were dragged back to Germany by the force of arms. Those who did not want to return to Adolf Hitler's Reich, where blood still smells to heaven, were cruelly tortured and beaten up by British soldiers and dragged by them to German territory - to the delight of Nazi beasts there lying in wait and watching with cruel laughter, how these poor creatures, having miraculously escaped Hitler's hellish gas chambers and the piles of burning human flesh, are now exposed to new sufferings.

It is heartbreaking, this non-stop torment, this barbarism which scorns all human feeling, that has become the lot of these innocent, harmless people. With horror and immense bitterness we have to raise the question: Is it not enough yet? Has Naziism and their Hitlerite doctrine not been stamped out yet for these unfortunate people, who are condemned to live the lives of beasts, for the only sin that they have been born to belong to and to share the fate of the Jewish community? How long is to continue this industry of cannibalism, over which not the Nazi emblem is hoisted now, but the pirate ensign of the British Empire?

Why and how long is the civilised world prepared to look on while on different parts of the globe, but especially on

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(2/47) (14728) Wt. 11489-144 250m 5/47 G.S.St.

Registry  
No. E 9207/48/31

J.E.C.

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Draft.

K. KELEMEN

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10 p  
-14 p.2

62

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Benin to refer to your letter of the 2nd October about an article published in the New York Hungarian paper AZ EMBER (MAN) on the subject of H.M.G.'s decision to send to the British Zone of Germany the Jewish illegal immigrants who, having been returned to their place of disembarkation in the South of France, refused to land there.

2. The following factual account of the events which led up to this decision and / of

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FO 371 / 61829

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of the actual disembarkation  
at Hamburg may be of assistance  
to you.

[Here insert from (A) to  
(B) of letter sent to  
correspondents nos 1-4 on E 8626]

8. The facts about the  
disembarkation at Hamburg are as  
follows:

[Here insert from (A) to  
(B) of letter to C.R.O. in  
E 8626]

I am etc.

JD Oct. 7

(Sect) B.A. B. Remow.

63

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64

S.W. 1.

Sir,

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## Reference

FO 371 64829

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/It

1. Kelemen Esq.,  
World Literary,  
Service Limited.



6. To revert to the events following the return of the 4,500 illegal immigrants to France. The British transports were left at Port de Bouc for three weeks in the hope that their passengers would accept the French offer of hospitality and disembark in France. When it became clear that the illegal immigrants would not agree to land and that the French Government would not constrain them to do so, it was necessary to find a destination for them under British jurisdiction. In the light of the general situation in regard to the illegal immigrant traffic which I have briefly explained above, His Majesty's Government were quite clear that it would be undesirable to send the illegal immigrants back to Cyprus. They considered a number of destinations in British Colonial territory but in no case was it possible to arrange adequate accommodation at short notice for such a large number of people. It was therefore reluctantly decided to send the illegal immigrants temporarily to the British Zone of Germany, the only place where accommodation could be provided at short notice, and to continue to press the French Government to receive them back through the British Zone.

8. The facts about the disembarkation at Hamburg are as follows:

(b) All the passengers from the second ship (Empire Rival) disembarked peaceably and no force was employed. A time-bomb was later discovered on board this ship.

/WHO

CONTINUATION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

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Reference: **FO 371** **34829**

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To sum up, 4294 persons were disembarked, many of them forcibly, yet only 23 were injured and none of these seriously, in spite of the violent resistance offered by them.

(Sqd.) B. A. B. Benows.

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9207 / 48 / 21

4 NOV 1947

INDEXED

London, 1947.

October 31st.

The Under Secretary of State,  
Foreign Office,  
London, S.W.1.

Sir,

Ref.No. E 9207/48/31.

I beg to apologise for the delay, caused  
by an attack of influenza, in acknowledging with  
thanks receipt of statement made on behalf of  
Mr. Secretary Bevin, referring to the transportation  
of Jewish immigrants to Germany.

The statement I have forwarded to my  
paper AZ EMBER /MAN/ in New York, for publication.

I am,

Sir,

Yours faithfully,

*H. Kellerman*

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